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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 269
By Harper

A RESOLUTION To honor and commend the good people of the
Nashville Rescue Mission upon the opening of
their new facility.

WHEREAS, It is fitting that this legislative body should pay tribute to those estimable
institutions whose members selflessly serve their fellow man and by vastly improving the quality
of life for countless individuals; and

WHEREAS, One such noteworthy institution is the Nashville Rescue Mission, which has
long been a leader in Nashville's charitable community; on June 11, 2001, the Mission will
officially open its new facility in the old Sears building on Lafayette Street; and

WHEREAS, The Mission's worthwhile purpose is "to help people understand the love of
God, gain wisdom for living, find fulfillment in life and become a positive part of their
community"; and

WHEREAS, "Following God's command to love our neighbors as ourselves," the Mission
has instituted numerous programs over the years in order to accomplish its worthy goals; and

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WHEREAS, "The Nashville Rescue Mission ministers to the hurting in our community by offering food, clothing, shelter and recovery to those enslaved to life-defeating problems; and

WHEREAS, The Mission's homeless shelter houses up to 600 men, women, and children per night, providing a safe haven from the streets, clean showers, lockers for the protection of cherished items, and warm clothing; and

WHEREAS, The Mission's kitchen is the breadbasket of Nashville's homeless community, serving up to 1,200 meals each day for breakfast, lunch, and dinner; and

WHEREAS, Remembering that if you give a man a fish, you feed him for a day, but if you teach him to catch fish, then he will never go hungry again, the Mission is committed to providing quality education and training; the staff and volunteers teach G.E.D. coursework, reading, basic life skills, finance and budgeting, computer skills, and job readiness skills and help individuals prepare for higher education; and

WHEREAS, The Anchor Home for Young Men offers a second chance and a safe place to recover for young men from age 18 to 26 who have experienced problems with addiction, legal, criminal, or antisocial issues; the Anchor Home provides solid moral and spiritual values in a Christ-centered eighteen-week program of recovery; and

WHEREAS, The Men's Recovery Program is available to men over 26 years of age who seek a respite from the streets and assistance in recovering from drugs, alcohol, and destructive lifestyles; and

WHEREAS, The Family Life Center provides food, shelter, clothing, education, and health care to transient women and their children who are temporarily homeless; and

WHEREAS, The Hope Center offers a long-term recovery program for women who, for up to one year, are eligible to receive aid in addressing the spiritual, mental, emotional, and physical issues of recovery from alcohol, drugs, or abuse; and

WHEREAS, Traveler's Aid gives counsel, travel assistance, food, and clothing to the stranded, battered, mentally-ill, and fleeing; and

WHEREAS, Lodging Place is a follow-up program with forty-one new apartments to house those dedicated individuals who have completed a Mission program; for six months, this program continues to provide counsel, financial education, and Bible studies to help men transition into full-time work; and

WHEREAS, The Mission also operates a medical clinic that provides health care and employs a full-time technician who is assisted by local volunteer doctors; and

WHEREAS, Central to all of the Mission's programs is the belief that only God can bring about true, lasting change and provide struggling individuals with hope and peace; accordingly, the Mission provides daily evangelistic services through chapels, Biblical counseling, and Bible study; and

WHEREAS, The Nashville Rescue Mission's new home will only serve to enhance the Mission's status as an invaluable resource in providing assistance to those in the Nashville community whom life has treated unkindly; and

WHEREAS, The people who perpetuate the work of the Mission are laudable community servants, devoted servants of their Lord, and worthy of special recognition by this General Assembly; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor and commend the good people of the Nashville Rescue Mission for providing meritorious service to the community of Nashville through their numerous charitable and social programs and join them in celebrating the opening of the Mission's new facility.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we wish the Nashville Rescue Mission much success as it continues to grow and evolve in its quest to better serve the community and the Lord.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.